IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 -50 (Canceled).

Claim 51 (New): A method for transmitting entitlement management messages (EMM) controlling access to data and/or services to be provided to a plurality of terminals in a data exchange network, the method comprising:

at transmission:

defining a set of EMM type messages as a function of at least one criterion representative of a type of data and/or services provided,

defining a plurality of types of logical transmission channels and associating at least one parameter to each type of channel to inform terminals of the EMM types transmitted on each described logical channel,

assigning at least one channel among the defined logical transmission channels to each EMM message type,

transmitting the parameter and the logical channels to each terminal,

multiplexing the logical transmission channels in a unique data stream, and

transmitting the data stream to terminals; and

at reception:

each terminal filtering incoming EMMs as a function of the parameter and at least one state parameter depending on a routine operation of the terminal, wherein, the parameter is transmitted to each terminal in a dynamic data structure representing a logical control channel, comprising at least one of the following fields:

a first field configured to enable the terminal to identify the logical channel descried by the structure,

a second field configured to inform the terminal about a change to data and/or change to the dynamic structure corresponding to transmission of new data on the described channel such that the terminal adapts its filtering to retrieve the new data, and

a third field configured to inform the terminal about a listen time on the described channel,

wherein the types of defined logical channels comprise at least:

a FAST channel configured to transmit EMM messages to terminals that expressly requested these messages;

a DEDICATED channel configured to transmit EMM messages with identical functional objectives;

a NORMAL channel configured to transmit EMM messages for which contents are not predictable and may not be delayed in time;

a DELAYED channel configured to transmit to terminals non-urgent EMM messages with plural functional objectives; and

a LOAD SHEDDING channel configured to retransmit messages that have already been transmitted on a channel other than the DEDICATED channel, to terminals.

Claim 52 (New): A method according to claim 51, wherein the dynamic data structure is transmitted in an encrypted EMM.

Claim 53 (New): A method according to claim 52, wherein the third field represents a minimum fixed duration sufficiently long to enable the terminal to retrieve the transmitted messages.

Claim 54 (New): A method according to claim 52, wherein the third field represents a minimum variable duration, as a function of a repetition rate at which EMM messages are sent.

Claim 55 (New): A method according to claim 54, wherein the minimum variable duration for the FAST, NORMAL, DELAYED, and DEDICATED channels is estimated as a function of the repetition rate at which EMM messages are sent.

Claim 56 (New): A method according to claim 51, wherein the data and/or services provided to terminals represent multimedia programs.

Claim 57 (New): A method according to claim 56, wherein the data and/or services provided to terminals represent audiovisual programs.

Claim 58 (New): A method according to claim 51, wherein the EMM messages are transmitted in broadcast mode.

Claim 59 (New): A method according to claim 51, wherein the EMM messages are transmitted in connected mode.

Claim 60 (New): A method according to claim 58, wherein the EMM messages are encapsulated in MPEG format.

Claim 61 (New): A method according to claim 59, wherein the EMM messages are encapsulated in MPEG format.

Claim 62 (New): A method according to claim 60, wherein the MPEG payload units obtained contain at least private information including:

EMM_XID representing an identifier of the EMM;

LG _EMM representing a length of the EMM; and

contents of the EMM.

Claim 63 (New): A method according to claim 61, wherein the MPEG payload units obtained contain at least private information including:

EMM_XID representing an identifier of the EMM;

LG_EMM representing a length of the EMM; and

contents of the EMM.

Claim 64 (New): A device for transmitting entitlement management messages controlling access to data and/or services to be provided to a plurality of terminals in a data exchange network, comprising:

means for defining a set of EMM type messages as a function of at least one criterion representative of the type of data and/or services provided:

means for defining plural types of logical transmission channels as a function of contents to be transmitted on each channel;

means for assigning a logical transmission channel to each EMM message type;

means for multiplexing the logical transmission channels in a same data stream;

means for transmitting the data stream to terminals; and

means for filtering incoming EMMs into a terminal, as a function of defined channel types,

wherein the parameter is transmitted to each terminal in a dynamic data structure representing a logical control channel, comprising at least one of the following fields:

a first field configured to enable the terminal to identify the logical channel described by the structure,

a second field configured to inform the terminal about a change to data and/or change to the dynamic structure corresponding to a transmission of new data on the described channel such that the terminal adapts its filtering to retrieve the new data, and

a third field configured to inform the terminal about a listen time on the described channel,

wherein said types of defined logical channels comprise at least:

a FAST channel configured to transmit EMM messages to terminals that expressly requested these messages;

a DEDICATED channel configured to transmit EMM messages with identical functional objectives;

a NORMAL channel configured to transmit EMM messages for which contents are not predictable and may not be delayed in time;

a DELAYED channel configured to transmit to terminals non-urgent EMM messages with plural functional objectives; and

a LOAD SHEDDING channel configured to retransmit messages that have already been transmitted on a channel other than the DEDICATED channel, to terminals.

Claim 65 (New): A device according to claim 64, further comprising:

means for associating at least one parameter to each channel type, to inform terminals about EMM types transmitting on each of the described logical channels;

means for transmitting the parameter to each terminal; and

means for enabling each terminal to filter incoming EMMs as a function of the parameter, and at least one status parameter reflecting a routine operation of the terminal.